

of the women repelled the advances of men in Bnmache's expedition.¹ Nachtigal² found the Somrai in Baghirmi modest and reserved. They proved "the well-known fact that decorum and chastity are independent of dress." On the Uganda railroad, near Lake Victoria, coal-black people are to be seen, of whom both sexes are entirely naked, except ornaments. They are "the most moral people in Uganda." The Nile negroes and Masai are naked. In the midst of them live the Baganda who wear much clothing. The women are covered from the waist to the ankles; the men from the neck to the ankles, except porters and men working in the fields. They provide decent latrines and have good sanitary usages as to the surroundings of their houses. They are very polite and courteous. This character and their dress are accounted for by their long subjection to tyranny. They are "profoundly immoral," have indecent dances, and are dying out on account of the "exhaustion of men and women by premature debauchery."³ The Kavirondo are naked, but are, "for negroes, a moral race, disliking real indecency and only giving way to lewd actions in their ceremonial dances, where indeed the intention is not immodest, as the pantomime is a kind of ritual." ⁴

462. Ornament and simplest dress. The notion of ornament is extremely vague. Things were attached to the body as amulets or trophies. Then the bodies which had nothing of this kind on them seemed bare and naked. Next objects were worn in order to comply with a type, without the character of amulets or trophies. These were ornaments. Hagen⁵ noticed, in his own experience, that ornament did away with the appearance of nakedness. The same effect of tattooing may be

noticed, even in pictures. The oldest Chinese tradition asserts that dress was originally for ornament.⁶ "To the grass-land negroes of North Kamerun dress of any kind is only ornament or protection against severe weather." Their conversation on certain subjects is gross, perhaps because they are entirely unclothed.⁷ The Doko women wear a few strings of beads hanging from a girdle, and the girls of the Dime wear one, two, or three ivory cylinders hanging from the waist, but nothing more.⁸ The Xosa wear an ornamented girdle, but no apron.⁹ The unmarried women in the Teniu districts of Togo wear strings of beads but no dress.

¹ *Afr. Cent* 55, 264.

² *Sahara and*

S^tdan II, 590.

⁸ Johnston, *Uganda Protect* 37, 114, 642, 685.

* *Ibid.*, 728, 730.

⁷ *Globus*,

LXXVI, 306.

⁵ *Papuas*, 169.

⁸ Vannutelli e

Citerni, *DOmo*, 294, 305.

⁶ Puini, *Origine della Civiltà*, 147.

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Fritsch, *Eingeb. Sud-Afr.*, 59.